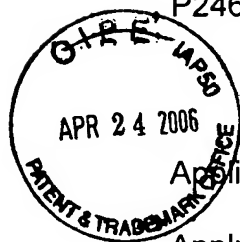


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Rogerio Jun MIZUNO

Group Art Unit: 2877

Appln. No. : 10/784,220

Examiner: Fannie L. EVANS

Filed : February 24, 2004

Confirmation No.: 8350

For : CONFOCAL PROBE

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop Issue Fee
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

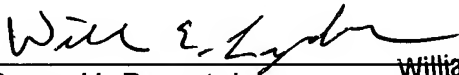
In response to the Notice of Allowability, mailed by the Patent and Trademark Office on January 30, 2006, and to the Statement of Reasons for Allowance attached thereto, Applicant wishes to clarify the record with respect to the basis for the patentability of claims in the present application. In this regard, while Applicant does not disagree with the Examiner's indication that certain identified features are not disclosed by the references, Applicant submits that each of the claims in the present application recite a particular combination of features, and that the basis for patentability of each of these claims is based on the totality of the particular features recited therein.

Applicant notes the Examiner's comments with regard to claims 1 and 11 (referencing the second paragraph on page 10 of the Response filed on December 30, 2005) which expresses the Examiner's agreement with Applicant's stated position.

Applicant notes that the reasons for allowance with regard to claims 3, 5, 7, 9 and 10 (contained in the Official Action dated August 30, 2005) were previously responded to in the Response filed on December 30, 2005.

Should there be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Rogerio Jun MIZUNO


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April 17, 2006
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